



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

"The oldest continuously operating Amateur Radio Club in the United States"

September 2011 Newsletter

Upcoming Meeting:

October 14: Mobile HF Installation Tips, by Lon Martin, KØWJ, winner of last year's antenna shoot out.

November 11: Logging software, by Dave Spoelstra, N9KT.

Highlights from the September Meeting:

Meeting called to order at 7:25 by club president Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB. There were 46 in attendance.

Jerry gave a quick synopsis of the finances of the club over the summer. Jerry thanked Tom Chance, K9XV, for acquiring the radios for the blind draws at the August swap meet. Jerry asked about a special event station for the super bowl. Tom said he hadn't heard anything definite about it. There was a little discussion about using the call "K0LTS". Mike, WA9FDO, talked a little about the Hilltop event. It's coming up on Sept 17. Right now, there are only 3 hills signed up.

Jerry said that if someone has a large coffee urn that they would want to donate for coffee for the meetings, the club would appreciate it. Jerry reminded those in attendance that elections for club officers are coming up, so be thinking of possible officer candidates. The old Training Center has been abandoned due to construction. The club's gear that was in the Training Center is with Tom Chance. The club's Christmas dinner is going to be December 9 at the MCL on West 86th Street, the same place as the past few years. Jerry is soliciting ideas for a speaker for the dinner.

Tom Chance thanked everyone that was involved with the W9IMS events. Over 12,000 Q's were recorded. Tom talked a little about JOTA, coming up on October 15 at the Boy Scout Council office at Fall Creek and Shadeland, from 9am to 3pm. There will be 3 stations in operation. See further info in the newsletter.

Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, announced that she is the new EC for ARES in Marion County. Don Hemenover, N9DOO, said Ron Williams', W9YZ, health is failing, and has a great deal of gear and material to get rid of.

Dave Miller, K9RTT, talked a little about the building situation at the Training Center, saying that he had arranged for our meetings to be at IVY Tech through at least next June. Next, he introduced the program. Al Grossniklaus, WD8BUG, from WTHR-TV, and Tom Weber, KC9GMJ, from WISH-TV. Al said that both of their stations host ham repeaters on their towers. Al and Tom introduced their program on NFL game day frequency coordination. Al will be soliciting help from the ham community for the Super Bowl coming up in February 2012. There is a multitude of RF communications in use at games. Al gave some of history of radio comms with the NFL. In 1956 there was an experiment with a coach to quarterback system. It was then outlawed for 38 years. In 1994 the current coach to quarterback system started. The current system is an encrypted, rolling code system. There are multiple Part 90 users, usually 150 to 200 frequencies, plus all of the outside world. Also part 74, wireless mics, etc.... From 1996 to 1999, the NFL tested and approved Telex' "CoachCom" system to replace the formerly wired coach's headset system. The Telex system uses a total of 96 Part 74 UHF channels (400 KHz wide channels each). In 1996, the NFL, in conjunction with the Society of Broadcast Engineers, started the Frequency management/coordination program for the Super Bowl. In 1999, regular game day coordination started. In September of 2007, there was an incident with New England's Coach Belichick where a Game Day Coordinator spotted cheating by New England's video crew recording signals from opposing team. In 2008 the Game Day Coordinators became NFL part time employees, subject to background checks and ethics rules. Al went over the various hat colors of the different groups in use on game days: black/white - officials, blue - support, yellow - Coach Comms, Maroon - GDC, Green - TV. For the superbowl, there will be frequency management going all week. On game weekend and game day, there will be the need for probably 20 or so ham volunteers. Al said the upcoming "white space" devices that are coming up will present their own unique problems, with frequency allocation problems. Spread Spectrum devices have not been utilized other than in experimental use. WiFi has presented problems in the past. The ticket scanners in use by the stadiums are also on WiFi networks. The RF environment is different on the field as opposed to the seating area. Also, Al noted coincidentally that the windows at Lucas Oil Stadium have RF shielding in them.

Door Prizes were drawn and meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Ham Radio News:

NO ANTENNA SHOOT OUT THIS FALL

Due to the construction at the Training Center, and its parking lot, there will be no HF mobile antenna shoot out this fall.

VANITY CALL SIGN FEE GOES UP AGAIN

On August 10, the FCC announced via a Final Rule in the Federal Register that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 90 cents, from \$13.30 to \$14.20. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making September 9, 2011, the first day the new fee is in effect. Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM), seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 14 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order. In FY 2011, the FCC expects to grant 14,600 vanity call signs, bringing in \$207,320 from the vanity call sign program, and looks to recover a total of \$336,599,048 in fees from all the Services that it regulates.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal five years ago. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program.

BSA JOTA COMING UP OCTOBER 15

The Crossroads Council (central Indiana counties) will be operating for the first time from the Crossroads council facility during the 2011 JOTA on Saturday, October 15, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm local time. The operation will take place at the Crossroads Council facility on the northeast corner of Shadeland Ave. and Fall Creek Blvd.

They need Hams to help man the different radio stations at the Crossroads facility. One to two hour sessions will be a great help.

All Radio gear will be set up and ready for volunteers.

Any one that would like to help with set up should let them know ASAP. Contact Mike Cimarossa, KC9RXE, at KC9RXE@gmail.com if you can help out.

FREQUENCY COORDINATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUPER BOWL

Al Grossniklaus, WD8BUG, one of the frequency coordinators for the NFL at Lucas Oil Stadium, says the NFL will need quite a few volunteers to help out with frequency coordination duties for the Super Bowl. Al says, “The good news from the NFL is that is that these ‘volunteer’ positions will not be completely unpaid – there is planned to be a small ‘stipend’ for each and there will be need for significantly more than the twenty I mentioned at the meeting. The official call is for “intelligent, energetic people who can stand and walk for long periods of time” (although some check in positions will work seated). There is a minimum age but volunteers do NOT have to be licensed amateurs. In addition to hams, college students also make wonderful Frequency Coordination volunteers.”

Contact either Al at alg@wthr.com, or Ken at kj9b@arrl.net if you are interested in volunteering.

MORGAN MANUFACTURING TO OFFER ICE FAMILY OF PRODUCTS

From Jim Rinehart, K9RU:

Morgan Manufacturing, located in Martinsville, Indiana, is now offering 100 of the most popular Industrial Communications Engineers, LTD (ICE) products including lightning arrestors, bandpass filters and AC line protection devices. Bob Koss, W9ETA, the owner of Morgan Manufacturing and brother of the late Mike Koss, the founder of ICE, was a subcontractor manufacturing many of the ICE products and worked with Mike on new product development. ICE products are known for their quality and performance and Morgan Manufacturing will continue to live up these expectations. Check out the online catalog: <http://www.morganmfg.us>

NEW RUSSIAN PREFIX SYSTEM IN USE

If you have been on the HF bands lately, you may have noticed that a number of new prefixes are in use by stations in the Russian Federation. Here is a summary of the

changes recently adopted by the Russian telecommunication authorities. Thanks to SRR President Roman Thomas, R5AA (ex-RZ3AA) for the information.

Russian prefixes with the numeral 2 are no longer limited to Kaliningradsk. Stations with RA2 and UA2-UI2 (with F and K as the first letter in the suffix) are in Kaliningradsk; otherwise, these prefixes will be used in European Russia. Stations with the following prefixes are in European Russia: R1, RA1-RZ1 (except RI1 as noted below), R2, RB2-RZ2, R3-R7, RA3-RZ7, UA1 and UA3-UI7. Also, stations with the prefixes R8, R9, RA8-RZ9 and UA8-UI9 (with F, S, T, W or X as the first letter in the suffix) are in European Russia. Except for those listed above, all stations with 8, 9 and 0 as the numeral are in Asiatic Russia. Russian Antarctic stations use temporary call signs in the series RI1ANA-RI1ANZ and RI00ANT to RI99ANT. Franz Jozef Land stations use temporary call signs RI1F, RI1FJ and RI1FJA-RI1FJZ. Malyj Visotskij island stations use temporary call signs RI1M, RI1MV and RI1MVA-RI1MVZ.

HAM RADIO DELUXE SOURCE CODE SOLD

The zed is reporting that the source code and rights to Ham Radio Deluxe have been sold to three radio amateurs, Mike Carper WA9PIE, Randy Gawtry, K0CBH and Rick Ruhl W4PC. No details are posted right now other than development and support will be continued on the product.

More info at <http://radioartisan.wordpress.com/2011/09/12/ham-radio-deluxe-rights-sold/>

AREA CLASSES SCHEDULED

The Boone County ARA is putting on 2 classes an Extra Class for those who want to upgrade...and a Technician Class for anyone wanting to get their ticket...Both Classes will be held at the Boone County Senior Service Building , 515 Crown Point Dr. (north side of Witham Hospital) from 6:30 - 9:00 pm...Cost of the classes is 25.00 per person...unless you buy the book

Extra Class - Every Tuesday Night starting 9/20/11 - till the last Tuesday of October.
The book for the class is Gordon West Extra Book

Tech Class - Every Wednesday Night starting 9/21/11 - till last Wednesday Of October -
Book for Class is ARRL Technician Book.

George B. Fields - N9BEC
Boone County Emergency Coordinator

1017 Harney Dr.
Lebanon, In. 46052

Also, Hendricks County will be starting their annual classes on January 25, 2012.
Contact Dr. Jay Wright, KK9L, (317) 203-3335 for more information.

APRS CLASS COMING UP

Bob Burns, W9RXX, will be presenting a class on APRS on Saturday, November 5, at 1:00 pm at the Hendricks County Senior Services building, 1201 Sycamore Lane, Danville, IN 46122. This is just north of the Hendricks Regional Health Hospital, east of Danville.

SHORTS

Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, has accepted the appointment as the Marion County ARES EC. Rhonda has been instrumental in Marion County net operations and serves as a Volunteer Examiner.

INARES HF net is meeting every Sunday afternoon at 5:00 pm Indianapolis time at or around 3.9 MHz. There is no longer a Sunday morning net.

Frank Hughes, formerly KC9LET is now NF9H.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Phyllis Fleming N0JMR
Steve Schlegel N9QMK
Bill Caldwell KC9ERL

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the September 10, 1973 *Indy Ham Radio Newsletter*:

Meeting announcement for the 12 October, 1973 meeting: Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, Director of Electronics Division, Community Hospital, Indianapolis. Hank will provide a program on communication electronics and some equipment he has recently designed.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- October 2 – Hoosier Hills Hamfest at Lawrence County Fairgrounds. Go to <http://www.w9qyq.org> for more information.
- November 30, 7:00 pm – Annual Hendricks County Volunteer Recognition Program. Hendricks County Government Center. Contact Dr. Jay Wright, KK9L, at (317) 203-3335 for more info or nominations.

2011 Officers:

- President: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL gskoll@msn.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Jay Willever, K9LJW - ..EMAIL k9ljw@arrl.net
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL k9xv@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Ron Cooper, WB9DKL - ..EMAIL wb9dkl@sbcglobal.net
- Dir. at large: Bob Begeman, W9KVK - ..EMAIL w9kvk@juno.com
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@lightbound.com